
Die Sabathi 20 Novembris, 1680.

THis House being moved, That *David Fitz Gerald* Esq; may have leave to Print his Information given to this House, concerning the Horrid Plot and Conspiracy in *Ireland*; It is Ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That the said *David Fitz Gerald* hath hereby leave given him to Print and publish the said Information.

Jo. Browne Cleric.

Parliamentorum.

ADVERTISEMENT.

WHereas there is one *John Fitz Gerald*, or at least goes under that name, who is said to be formerly a Fryer or Priest, upon whom there has been some scandalous reflexions, this is he who was seized in *Bristol*, going for *Ireland* to search for Commissions in *Old Wall*; I would only beg of the Reader, not to take me for this man.

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David Fitz Gerald.

A
 NARRATIVE
 OF THE *(Another copy R. 2. 48th)*
 Irish Popish Plot,
 For the betraying that
 KINGDOM
 Into the hands of the
 FRENCH,
 Massacring all ENGLISH PROTESTANTS there,
 And utter Subversion of the
 GOVERNMENT
 AND
 Protestant - Religion;
 As the same was successively carryed on from the
 Year 1662.

Given in to both Houses of Parliament.

By DAVID FITZ GERALD Esq;.

LONDON:

Printed for Tho. Cockerill, at the Three-Legs in the Poultrey over-
 against the Stocks-Market, 1680.

87... 878

A

NARRATIVE

OF THE

Irish Popish Plot.

SINCE we have manifestly found by woful experience, That the Princely favours, and tender proceedings of His late Majesty towards the *Irish*, proved altogether ineffectual to contain them within the bounds of Loyalty and Duty, but still they suffer themselves to be led blindfold into fatal Rebellions, by the pernicious Counsels of their Priests, the World may easily believe (by their proceedings in the last Rebellion) that their designs are always on foot, and tending to no less than the utter subversion of the English Government in *Ireland*, and establishing the Power in the hands of their own Natives and Religion. For confirmation hereof, we need not look back so far as the Testimony of that *Franciscan* Fryar, one of their Council, who declared, That the Session of Parliament held at *Dublin*, being Prorogued in *Aug. 1641*, and the time drawing nigh for putting their designs of surprizing *Dublin-Castle*, and all other places in possession of the English, into execution, there was a grand consult, or meeting of the Romish-Clergy, and principal Lay-men of their Faction, appointed to be at the Abbey of *Multisarvan* in the County of *Westmeath*, where amongst other matters there debated, the Question was, what course should be taken with the English, and all others that were found in the whole Kingdom to be Protestants; and by their subsequent Practises it appear'd, that no less than a general Massacre was resolved on: Though the poor Fryar had no other Reward or Recompence for the Discovery, save only a Confinement: In which restraint he continued, till the Romish party getting the upper hand, found him in the Prison, and there most cruelly Murder'd him.

It would be too tedious (and unnecessary, seeing they are so notoriously known) to give an account of the several contrivances

ces of the Popish Clergy of *Ireland*, ever since the Conquest of that Kingdom, to shake off the English Government; and the horrid and barbarous cruelties they have practised in order thereunto: Therefore I will confine my self to such particulars as have happened since His Majesties Restauration, taking notice only, That their Ignorance produces so blind a superstition towards the Popish Religion, that they will most willingly venture their lives (all that their many Rebellions have left them, and those perhaps too much too, unless they make better use of them) to further any thing, which they are made believe tends to the Honour of Holy Church: As on the other side, their malice to the English (who are possessors of their Estates) is so great, that they would be content to be in worse bondage to a Foraigner, so they might but gratifie their revenge so far, as to have the English equal sufferers with them. Though they apprehend no danger of that, taking themselves to be already such slaves, that they fancy their condition cannot be worse by changing their Masters (especially for a Prince of their own Faith) witness their late agreement with *Spain*, and their present one with *France*, which these Papers set forth.

No man that has any insight into the affairs of *Ireland*, can be ignorant, that the Romish Clergy of that Kingdom have publickly and privately the enjoyment and exercise of their Religion according to the manner of the Church of *Rome*, more freely since His Majesties happy Restauration, than in several years before, by the very great indulgence of the late Governors. They have their Titular Primates, Archbishops, Bishops, Vicars General, Provincial Consistories, Deans, Abbots, Priors, &c. who all live freely, though somewhat covertly amongst them, without controul, exercising Jurisdiction over the people. They have also their Priests, Jesuits and Fryars, who are of late years exceedingly multiplied, and in great numbers returned out of *Spain*, *Italy*, *France*, and other Foragin parts (where the Children of the Natives of *Ireland*, that are devoted to that way, are usually sent to receive their education) much to the damage and disadvantage of the Protestants in that Kingdome; and no less to the Papists themselves, if they would but have the patience to consider what miseries they have endured by the means of Ignorant Popish Priests, who value no Religion so much, as the want of their Impropriations, Glebes and Monasteries. But that which causes the greatest admiration in me, is, that Noble-men, private Gentlemen, and others that are Roman Catholicks, and enjoy great part of their Estates, if not all, should be thus insatuated and misled by such a parcel of designing Hypocrites, to act contrary, not only to their Allegiance, but their Honour and Interest too; forgetting the Calamities, by their means and wicked industry, brought up-
on

on that Kingdom of *Ireland*, to the utter ruine and destruction not only of many Thousand English Families, but of many of their own Nation and Relations, who were ignorant of their horrid designs; yet did upon the same account perish, and in some sort suffer'd more than the Conspirators themselves.

Within few years after His Majesties happy Restauration, one *John Mulloony* a mean man by birth, but now Titular Bishop of *Killaloe*, and several others of the Popish Clergy and Gentry of that Kingdom, united in a Conspiracy against His Majesties Government in *Ireland*: For the said Bishop *Mulloony* having, whilst he was in *France*, received in *Paris* the sum of One hundred thousand *Lieures* to promote a Rebellion in *Ireland*, did engage the ensuing persons to carry on the said design (to wit) Collonel *Miles Riley*, Collonel *Cullen*, Collonel *Byrne*, Collonel *Mortagh O Brian*, and Collonel *Dudley Costellow*, the last of whom fail'd not to perform his part thereof, as presently I shall relate: But first, for its progress, the Reader must note, That after the last Act of Settlement in *Ireland*, the Popish Clergy being void of all hopes of His Majesties favours, or any Toleration establish'd by Law, imploied several Emissaries into all parts of *Ireland*, to give notice to all persons, whose desperate fortunes (occasion'd by their own or their Ancestors Rebellion) or any hardships which they apprehended they endured had made discontented, of the said designs, and to prepare and engage them therein, and used endeavours to make all the interest in Garisons and strong holds throughout the Kingdom that possibly they could: And where they had no interest, appointed some of their confederacy to be in readiness to surpris such places and holds. These Emissaries were going about for a year and an half before this commotion began; and then the said Collonel *Costellow* being forward to perform his part thereof, before the rest were fully ready, and before he received his part of the Money of *Mulloony*, rashly engaged himself; For making a party in *Connaught*, he fell upon, and was sufficiently revenged upon the Lord *Dillons* Tenants and Estates in that County, upon some former grudge he had against him. And afterwards he made his interest about *Longford*, and engaged in it a Gentleman of that Countrey, whose name I shall omit, he being then in the English Army; yet by the insinuation of the Popish Clergy, was trickt into the said Rebellion, by which the people of *Longford* were then Murdered, and the whole Town Fired; and in the Action the said Gentleman was shot dead, and his Head brought to *Dublin* and set on the Gate; and *Costellow* himself suffered upon the same account, but not at the same time. Collonel *Mortagh O Brian* was kill'd by one *Reerden*, who was formerly a Lieutenant in his own Regiment. Collonel *Byrne* was some years after in Restraint in *Dublin*, and which way he escaped is best known to those that were accessary to

to it: and what became of the rest I cannot tell, but the Conspiracy was very formidable, and had it gone on till full ripe, would have had very dire effects. In the Relation of which I have been thus brief, because my self was not engaged in it, and so cannot of my own knowledg say positively how far the contrivance in particulars was carryed on; but I can give a sufficient account how I came to know what I have here set down, when ever I shall be required.

And shall now address my self to speak of those things which fell within my particular cognizance, and which I can affirm upon knowledg. As follows,

IN March 1673, or thereabout, several Officers out of France Landed in Ireland, under the pretence of raising Recruits for Collonel Hamilton, then in the French Service, to wit, Captain Daniel Macnamarra, Captain John Lacy, Captain Con Oneale, one Macmahan, and Lieutenant Hurley, and several others; many of the said Officers being my former acquaintance (before they were employed in the French Service) upon their coming into Ireland, I met several of them, and entring into communication with them (having formerly heard a general Rumour of the French designing upon Ireland, and considering that the said persons being employed, for some years before, in the French Service, might be capable to give some particular account thereof) I enquired of Lacy, whether there was any probability of the French's invading Ireland, or any such matter intended? He answered, That if the Dutch were once subdued, he did not question but the French would establish the Roman Catholick Religion in all the Northern parts of Europe; and (as far as he could understand by Marshal Turenne who was then his General) that we should have the same Laws established in Ireland that are in France; and when the French had compleated what they had in hand, that we should suddenly after see a great alteration both in Church and State: The said Lacy then uttering more words then I shall mention here. He likewise gave me an account of the Number of Irish that they had then Training up in France, and that our welfare in Ireland did much rely on the success of their Forces in France; and that he did admire that any persons of Quality, that did understand the design of that War, should stand so much in their own light as to slip so good an opportunity, and so just a Cause, being altogether to destroy Hereticks, and to abolish their Laws; and that he did not question, with the Assistance of the French, but that it would be accomplished notwithstanding all oppositions; and that such persons of Irish extraction as did not engage themselves in the said Wars, would not in the future be esteemed, especially such persons of quality as had no charge of

Families. That he did admire why they did not consider their own present Condition, and the occasion of their last Ruine; saying, That it was rather for want of *Conduct* than *Courage*; and that he did not doubt (if they were not wanting to themselves) that their loss in the former Wars, would be retrieved in the next, if they did prove true to their *superiors* (meaning thereby the *Titular Popish Bishops* of the several Dioceses in *Ireland*) who were able, not only to *instruct* them, but also to forward and enable them in the said Design; and that he was confident that the *French* had that interest that would not receive such a repulse as the *Spaniards* did in *King'sale*; alleadging, that the fault was rather to be imputed to the *Irish* than to the *Spaniards*; That the Articles betwixt *Philip O'sullivan* on the behalf of the *Irish* were not duly performed with the *Spaniard*; and if the *Irish* had been in Arms to unite themselves with the said *Spaniard*, according to the said Contract, they might have been ever since possessed of their Estates and Liberty of Religion. I made answer, that the *Irish*, had been persuaded into so many Engagements and Rebellions, that the name of an *Irish* man was become *ridiculous* and *scandalous*. The name of an *Irish* man (said he) is only ridiculous to such as *enjoy their Estates*; and it is rather for their poverty, than for any other reason that we are contemptible, and therefore it will concern us to remedy that fault by regaining all our Estates.

After this Discourse was over, I told the said *Lacy*, that I had a desire to *Travel into France*, and inquired of him, whether there was any probability that I might procure a Commission under Count *Hamilton*? Who said, there was; and that Captain *Anthony Hamilton* would be suddenly in the County of *Limerick*; and as soon as he had notice thereof, he would give me an account whether the said *Hamilton* had any Blank Commission left undisposed; but soon after, upon information to the Lord Deputies of *Ireland*, there were special Orders to secure the Officers, and stop the men, which barred their Voyage that time.

A little time after I met Captain *Neal*, and understood by him, that Count *Hamilton's* Regiment was divided, and in factions, one party for *Hamilton*, and the other for *Dungan*, which gave me but little encouragement to proceed; and acquainting the said *Neal*, that I did resolve to *Travel into France*, the said *Neal* said, that he did prevail with a great many young Gentlemen to venture their Fortunes abroad; and that he did believe, if they did generally know in *Ulster* how the Game was playing for them, that there would be hardly any left in the whole County, but would all unanimously go for *France*; but added, that he did conceive it would be of dangerous consequence to him to declare what his knowledge was of the affairs abroad, and how likely they were to

This Captain
O Neale, is
Son to *Ewen*
Roy, O Neale,
who was Ge-
neral to the
Irish, in 41.

Viz. costellows

have good success in their undertakings, if they did prove obedient to such as were intrusted to give them timely notice ; and that it was for want of good and prudent management, the last design, so long in agitation, was discovered.

These Officers being crossed in their Voyage (and their men dispersed) went back into *France* again, from whence, about a year after, the said Lieutenant *Hurly* returned into *Ireland*, and resided in *New-Castle* or thereabouts for half a year or upwards, where it was credibly reported, that he did train up several Gentlemen, by teaching them to Exercise *Pike* and *Musket* : And it was generally affirm'd then amongst the *Papists*, that in several parts of *Ireland* the like method was used, in order to being in readiness, to receive Commands from such as were appointed for the carrying on the said Conspiracy in the Kingdom of *Ireland*.

The Romish Religion in *Ireland* established.

About the year 1675, Captain *John Lacy* came out of *France* into *Ireland*, giving an account of the affairs abroad to Bishop *Muldowny* and the rest of the Popish Clergy in that Country, giving them full assurance, that all was working on for the better, charging and commanding them to be very urgent with the people, and to omit no opportunity, and that they should suddenly see their Religion better settled in *Ireland* than ever before, and that they would be rid of that yoke of Heresie which they had so long suffered under ; and that now the minute was nigh at hand, on which their Fortune depended, or their utter Destruction. These words he did utter in the presence of several of the Clergy, as I have been told by the said *Muldowny* and others ; and the said *Lacy* declared the same in effect in my company.

The King fell ill, which gave much encouragement to the said design.

His Majesty being well recovered from his sickness, gave much discouragement to the party.

About the said year, News came fresh into *Ireland*, That the King of *England* was very ill ; and the report sometime after was strong, that His Majesty was dead ; some affirming, that if he was not, that it was impossible for him ever to recover, which gave great encouragement to their design : At which time there flocked great multitudes out of *France* into *Ireland*, giving notice, That they would be in Arms, and such as had none, should use their endeavours to procure some, and that the time was come on which they would execute their designs. But His Majesty (by God's Mercy) recovering from the said Distemper, gave them much discouragement for that time, instead of their former hopes ; inso-much, That those desperate persons returned into *England* (as we in *Ireland* supposed) and continued there some time before the *Parliament* assembled, and then returned into *Ireland* with no less hopes of good success than formerly ; declaring to the people there, that there was great industry used, in preparing a Bone to throw between both Houses of *Parliament*, which gave the Malecontents there ;

there, hopes, that by means thereof they would bring their horrid designs, long in agitation, to effect; That is to say, to abolish the Laws established, and the Protestant Religion, and upon the Ruines thereof, to erect Popery, and establish Arbitrary Government: But coming short of their wicked expectations, they returned into France.

The Officers
Gone out of
Ireland.

Again re-
turned with
new hopes.

About the year 1676, I saw Doctor *Creagh*, otherwise called the Titular Bishop of *Cork*, who (as I was told by one Doctor *Stretch*) was newly come from *France* and *Rome*; afterwards, in *Limerick*, happening to be in the company of the aforesaid Bishop *Muldowny* (who was my former acquaintance, and knew that I was privy to several passages and intrigues of this kind) he told me, that they had received further intelligence concerning the said affairs, by Bishop *Creagh*, and several others of the Popish Clergy, who were lately arrived in *Ireland*, and that they had instructions to proceed, and authority from his Holiness the Pope, for to quit and discharge the Roman Catholics of *Ireland* from their Allegiance to the King of *England*, saying, That the King of *England* had no Right to *Ireland*, but what he had from the Pope; and that the King being an Heretick, the same right returned to the Pope again; and said, the *French* were not then in a condition to perform what was formerly agreed upon; Bishop *Muldowny* saying, That the Articles, in order to the carrying on of the said design, were in the hands of the Titular Arch-Bishop of *Tuam*, and did not question but every point therein mentioned should be faithfully performed; adding, that there were those in *England* appointed for to supply His Majesties Wants, and keep off Parliaments until this were accomplished.

Bishop *Creagh*
came out of
France and
Rome.

This is the
same *Muldowny*
that fo-
mented the
former Rebel-
lion.
One *Lynch*.

It was a general rumour throughout *Ireland*, amongst the Popish Clergy and Gentry for several years before, especially 1675 and 1676, That his Royal Highness, in 1677 ensuing, at the furthest, should be King. As soon as I had this intelligence from the said *Muldowny* and others, I acquainted *John Piggott* Esq; a Justice of the Peace, with that in particular in the aforesaid years; who being examined before the Lord Lieutenant and Council, in November 1679, did not only acknowledg the same, but gave it in his Examinations under his Hand and Seal; and so far I refer my self to the said Examinations, which are now in the custody of Sir *John Davis* Secretary of State in the Kingdom of *Ireland*. How this and a *French* design, and the Plot discovered against His Majesties Life here in *England* doth agree, I will not take upon me to determine, but refer the inferences to the Judicious Reader.

Acquainted
John Piggott
Esq; with the
said particu-
lars.

On or about the 2d of November 1677, Collonel *Pierce Lacy* invited me to go with him to *Limerick*, he being then to treat about

about the said design with the Lord *Brittas*, Mr. *John Macnamara* of *Crattellagh*, and several others who were engaged in carrying on the same, as I have been told by the said *Lacy*, Bishop *Mulwenny*, and many more of the Popish party.

Twenty or more in number met at *John Hicks* Innkeeper in *Rathkeale*.

Gibins and *Palmer*.

About *January* 1677, The Lord *Brittas*, Captain *Thomas Bourk*, and several others with them, came into the Barony of *Conollue* in the County of *Limerick*, where they had several private Consultations, one whereof was at the House of one *John Hicks* Innkeeper in *Rathkeale* in the said County of *Limerick*, there being at the said meeting, in number Twenty, or more, who were accustomed to meet at Night; but some English Gentlemen coming suddenly there, barred them of treating of the particulars at that time: Therefore they agreed to have another meeting at the same place the week following, and another at *New Castle* in the said County, where they met accordingly, but the particulars they then concluded upon, I know not.

White owned the same.

On or about the Fourteenth of *February*, in the same year, I met Mr. *Eustace White* upon the *Commons* of *Chrough Burgefs* in the County of *Limerick*, who told me, that he had Two Letters to the Lord *Brittas*, one from Sir *John Fitz Gerald*, the other from Mr. *Hurly*, or Mr. *Poore*; I enquired of the said *White*, what did Sir *John's* Letter import? The said *White* answered, That they did understand the Lord *Brittas* had received his Commission, and that Sir *John Fitz Gerald* did expect to be his Lieutenant Colonel, and that the said *White* did expect a Captains Command under the said Lord *Brittas*. Sir *John Fitz Gerald* being examined before the Lord Lieutenant and Council, in *November* 1679, did own to have sent such a Letter by the said *White*, at the same time, to the Lord *Brittas*.

Many who were not at the last Rebellion at the least concerned, suffered more than the Actors.

Many of the *Irish* which are well to live, and restored to part of their Estates, if not all, were very much discontented at those proceedings, who though they knew not the particulars, had a general notion of the Evil coming upon them, and did fear that their Innocency might smart for the Nocency of others; several of *Ireland*, who were not only innocent in themselves, but harboured and protected several English Families, having smarted for the Rebellion of others, in a manner more than those that have been Actors in the said Rebellion, as by woful experience I can justifie and maintain.

The English had Forty-one in their memory.

The English likewise in those last years, having Forty-one fresh in their memories, were much dismayed to see and hear of those great multitudes meeting both publicly and privately; and mistrusting that there was some evil or mischief intended them, commanded that strict Watches be duly kept through the Country.

In the years 1676 and 1677, several Emissaries went to and fro; giving intelligence of foraign affairs, and how managed abroad; likewise several Letters were come down to the Country with feigned names to them, one whereof I had in my hand, and perused it, it was directed to Capt. *Edwards*, and subscribed by Capt. *Jones*, both feigned names, which said Letters were writ at their grand Cabals in *Dublin*, or thereabouts, as I did understand by Coll. *Lacy* and several others; and that which I did read, he said was come from one Dr. *Cusack* near *Dublin*, whom I have never seen nor known; the substance thereof I delivered to Sir *John Davis* Secretary of State: These were the methods that were used in the said years, for the better managing the said design.

The Gran
Cabals in
Dublin.

On or about May 1678, an Agent being then appointed to go into *France*, by name Dr. *Hetherman*, the Emissaries of the Jesuits, and the rest of the Clergy in those parts that were the principal men, consulted together, and pitched upon Coll. *Lacy* to be a fit person to go to *Dublin* to confer with Coll. *Richard Talbot*, and others there, and to bring what advice and instructions they had there, to the said Agent that was bound for *France*, as soon as the said *Lacy* returned from *Dublin*; Coll. *Lacy* being short of Money, borrowed 60 l. of *Simon Eaton* Esq; under the pretence of discharging Rent and Arrears to Sir *William Talbot* Agent to his Royal Highness in that Kingdom: The said *Lacy*, after the receipt of the said Money, went to *Dublin* as aforesaid, and was away until August following, then returned to his own House, being there but Three days or thereabouts, when the Popish Clergy of that Diocess assembled together at the House of Dr. *James Streitch* in *Rakeal*, Priest, To wit, *James Dowly* Titular Bishop of *Limerick*, Dr. *Hetherman* Vicar General of that Diocess, Dr. *Creagh*, Dr. *Whigg*, Father *Fox* and several others, they and Coll. *Lacy* being together, for a good while before I came there, I do not know what the particulars of the said instructions given by the said *Lacy* to the said *Hetherman* were, but being intimately acquainted with all the Company except *Hetherman* (that being my first acquaintance with him) who conversed altogether in *French* or in *Latin*, several circumstances in general terms were treated of upon the former subject; after Dinner was over, Coll. *Lacy* and my self walked abroad in the Street for an hour at least, and he told me how forward they were in managing and carrying on the said design, and that Dr. *Hetherman* (who was then Agent bound for *France* as aforesaid) was as fit a person to manage the affairs in *France* and *Rome* as any in that Kingdom; the said *Lacy* saying, that it was proper for me to renew my acquaintance with the said *Hetherman*. After we returned into the House of the said *Streitch*, and several discourses being treated in general terms about the said Design, the said *Hetherman* and I walked abroad in the Garden of the said *Streitch*; the said *Hetherman* was very earnest to learn of me what force or strength I

Coll. *Lacy* to
Dublin in May
78.

Returned in
August fol-
lowing.

Bp. *Dowly*,
Father *Creagh*,
Dr. *Whigg*, &c.
assembled.

A Roll in Paper, with the number of Papists and Protestants.

A Design to surprize *Limerick*, and many other strong holds in *Ireland* to be delivered up to the *French*.

Much reflection upon the management of all former Designs.

conceived the Protestants to be in that County; I made answer, that I never enquired into the particulars. He told me I was to blame for it; whereupon he produces me a Roll in the nature of a Panel, but in Paper, where he shewed me each Parish in particular, and the number of the Protestants and Papists in that County; the Papists by the return of the said *Hetherman*, had in number amounted to Fifteen for each Protestant in the said County, and that he had the like return from the County of *Cork*, County of *Clare*, County of *Kerry*, &c. not mentioning the numbers of the said Counties then to me. I asked him then, how came he to have such an exact return of the Protestants and the Papists? He said it was not difficult to him, prescribing the ensuing methods used in those affairs; saying, that every Parish-Priest had always an exact Catalogue of Protestants and Papists in their Parishes, and returned the same twice a year to the Bishops, and likewise said, that he had a List of the Nobility that were engaged in managing the said Design, but did not shew me the same; and did say, that he did trust in God that the Natives of *Ireland* would not be long Subjects to Heretical Government; and for his part, that he would use all the industry and interest he had to effect the said Design; and that he did conjecture, that the County of *Kerry* might be the most convenient Landing-place for an Army in *Ireland*, it being a remote Country, and convenient, having but few there to oppose them, being far from any assistance; that he did not doubt, if the persons engag'd in carrying on the said design did perform their undertaking, that before the English Forces in *Ireland* had full notice of the Army landed, there would be but few left to give opposition; and pitching upon the Month of *November* following to be the time appointed for their Landing, said, that some were desirous to have the said Army Land in the North of *Ireland*, but that (upon consideration of the *English* and *Scotch* there, and their strength and numbers in that Country) at the general Consultation of the Popish Clergy about *Dublin*, it was agreed to begin in the Province of *Munster*, and to secure all the Forts and strong-holds there, and that there were persons engaged in the said Design, that could, without much danger, deliver up several Forts and Cities in the said Kingdom; and in such Cities and Forts where they had not interest in the Officers within the said Cities, that they had persons appointed throughout the Kingdom to surprize all such strong-holds and Cities aforesaid, saying, that if the said Design had miscarried, considering what great assistance and friends they had both at home and abroad, that the *Irish* should never expect but to live in misery, reflecting upon the miscarriages in all former designs, blaming the undertakers, saying, that if the *Irish* did unanimously unite and rise in Arms when Coll. *Dudley Castle* first began the Insurrection in *Connought*, that they would by that time have *Ireland* freed from Heresie; and now, that they had no other way then to

Rise

Rise all in a night, and to proceed in a general Massacre throughout the said Kingdom, and to kill Man, Woman and Child, and not to leave a Protestant living in the Kingdom of *Ireland*. The said *Hetherman* in three days after the said meeting, went away for *France*; before the said *Hetherman* parted, I acquainted Sir *Thomas Southwell* with all the particulars, and desired that he would secure *Hetherman* and all his Papers, and likewise told him who the Officers were that were appointed to carry on the design; but he did nothing therein, but often promised that he would send to acquaint the Earl of *Orory* with the Proceedings, but did not (as far as ever I could understand), and sent to Collonel *Lacy*, and the rest, to acquaint them of such matters as I had imparted to him about the said Design, as hereafter shall appear more at large.

On or about *Novemb. 1678*, the *French* were expected to Land beyond *Tarbutt*, in the River of *Sbanan*, in the County of *Kerry*, in the said Kingdom; the persons concerned to perform their parts of the Design in that Countrey, did often Consult together in those days (*viz.*) the Lord *Baron of Brittas*, Collonel *Pierce Lacy*, and several others having continual Intelligence, that the time was drawing nigh, the day being appointed on which the said Design was to be effected, notice being thereof throughout the Kingdom, as far as I could learn; the time for Landing being the 20th of *Novemb. 1678*, as aforesaid, and to surprize *Limerick* the 23d; some were for surprizing thereof some days before the *French* had Landed; others opposed it, thinking that if the *French* did not come at the time appointed, that it were of dangerous consequence for them to hazard themselves in the undertaking, and so concluded to make no noise or insurrection, till they had the assistance assured unto them: But the said Lord *Brittas*, Collonel *Lacy Macnamarra*, and several others made it their business for several years before to be free and familiar with the Officers of *Limerick*, by treating and entertaining them, in hopes thereby that their Design might be the easier carried on, sitting up early and late with the said Officers, in Taverns, Inns, and all such-like places, that at last they brought them to that familiarity and acquaintance, that they might go out or come into the Gates at all hours of the night that they pleased; and wrought so far upon the said Officers, that by excess of Drinking, three of the said Officers of *Limerick* dyed. I could say more of this, but I think this is sufficient.

The said Lord *Brittas Macnamarra*, and the rest of that party run themselves deeply in Debt in treating the said *English* Officers; and that as far as I could then understand, it was a Custom at that time, used in most Garisons of *Ireland*.

The persons concerned in the said Conspiracy (as the Lord *Brittas*, and others) gave out, that they were to have Commissions sometimes to Raise men for *Holland*, and other times for *Tangier*, that by the Rumours thereof, the less notice might be taken of their pub-

They were afraid that the *French* would not answer their expectation at the same time appointed.

Names of the Officers that dyed, and those that went about naked.
Capt. *Feine*,
Cap. *Ashburnham*,
Lieutenant *Dannell*,
and many more.

publick meetings and Treaties; and to avoid all suspicion whilst they were managing the aforementioned Contrivance. The English in those parts all this while imagining what the matter should be, were in bodily fear, seeing so many great meetings as aforesaid, and likewise some of the *Irish* who were abroad, and knew the Laws of *France*, and the rigour of Arbitrary Government, being now possessed of some of their Estates, if not all, were in much fear that the Popish Clergy of *Ireland*, by their contrivance, would bring destruction upon the Innocent as well as the Nocent, the like having happened often before in *Ireland*.

In *March* 1678, or thereabouts, Sir *John Fitz Gerald* visiting some Friends in the County of *Limerick*, amongst the rest went to Coll. *Pierce Lacy*, who told Sir *John*, that he was highly obliged to Sir *Thomas Southwell*, saying, that the said Sir *Thomas* did send him word by Mr. *John Hurly*, that I should tell and acquaint the said Sir *Thomas*, that Coll. *Lacy*, one *Easmond*, and others, were engaged in the Conspiracy then on foot in *Ireland*; Sir *John Fitz Gerald* did ask Coll. *Lacy* whether he did see me since he received that Message? Coll. *Lacy* replying that he did very often, but never did tax me with it, desired the said Sir *John* to say nothing of it at present; whereupon the said Sir *John* denied to stay to drink with the said *Lacy* (as Sir *John* told me) and Rode straight to the House of *John Hicks* Innkeeper in *Rakeal*, whither he sent for me, spoke these ensuing words after we met, in the presence of Mr. *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, Capt. *William Fitz Gerald*, and *John Hicks* the Innkeeper; Cousin, when will you take as much care of me as I have done for you within this two hours? Then I asked Sir *John*, if it were any private business of importance, to walk in the next Room; he answered, that he would not, and where there was one, he wished there were Twenty, and that it was a business not to be smothered, repeating the said message sent from Sir *Thomas Southwell*, by Mr. *Hurly*, to Coll. *Lacy*, and that if I did tell Sir *Thomas Southwell* such a thing as Coll. *Lacy* said (meaning the discovery of the Plot in *Ireland* to the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*) that he was no better than a Traytor to his Country in betraying me; and that if I did not repeat the same to the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*, that he was a Rascal for abusing me; and then asked when I saw Mr. *Hurly*, Mr. *Mackmechiny*, Mr. *John Burk*, Capt. *Pardon*, or Coll. *Lacy*? I told him lately. Then says he, did none of your Friends and good Relations acquaint you with this business before? I told him, not. Then says he, look to your self, and take it from me, as a special Caveat, that for the future you avoid all their Companies; for I do assure you, that they have an eye upon you, which for ought I know, may cost you your life, except you have a special care of your person; saying, that as soon as he heard it, he could not rest until he had given me a full account thereof.

The Lord *Brittas* being examined before the Lord Lieutenant and

Sir *John Fitz Gerald* reflecting upon Sir *Thomas Southwell*.

Sir *John's* Caveat to me for the future.

and Council in November 1679, under what pretences he did give out, that he was to have a Regiment of Horse? or under whose Command? or from whom was he to have his Commission? He answered, that it was by the Earl of *Orory's* interest (who was newly dead) who promised to procure him a Commission to raise a Regiment for the Service of *Holland*, but could not prove that he had spoke with the Earl of *Orory* in several years before, nor could produce the Messenger that brought him that Message, nor a Line under the Earl of *Orory's* hand.

Coll. *Lacy* being also examined, owned to be at several Consultations aforesaid, and that at the same time after his return from *Dublin*, to be at the meeting in *Rakeal*, where the Popish Clergy of that Diocess Assembled together, and did confes, that Dr. *Hetherman* was appointed Agent for *France*; and that at that time, from thence, he went away for *France*; but said, he did not know what about.

Examined before the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

Mr. *Enslace White* examined, whether he received a Letter from Sir *John Fitz Gerald*, to carry to the Lord *Brittas*, in February 1677, or thereabouts? owned that he did.

Examined.

Mr. *John Figgott* being examined, whether I told him the particulars afore-mentioned, in the year 1675, 1676, 1677 and 1678, who owned some of the particulars, and all the other part in general terms, as by his Depositions doth appear.

Examined.

John Gilbert Clerk, being brought up to *Dublin*, to prove the meetings in Night-time in *Rakeal* and other parts of the Country for several years before, did own their private meetings, both of Clergy and Laity, and did conceive it to be of dangerous consequence to the English, as by his Depositions doth appear.

John Hicks the Innkeeper, in whose House the designs upon that County were for the most part contrived and discoursed of, did not own much thereof; But it will be proved by Three persons of Quality, who are not yet brought to give their Evidence, that *Hicks* told them in the year 1677, that he was sure, and did understand no less by the Company that frequented his House, that there would be a sudden alteration, and several other particulars to that purpose, which I am confident he would declare otherwise than he did, had he not been dissuaded from it.

Hicks Examined and proved a Rogue, and did not declare what he knew, as shall hereafter appear.

Sir *John Fitz Gerald* being examined before the Lord Lieutenant and Council in *Dublin*, in November 1679, whether Coll. *Lacy* told him that Sir *Thomas Southwell* did send him such a Message by Mr. *Hurly*, or whether Sir *John* did acquaint me with the particulars aforesaid, in the year 1678, the said Sir *John* did acknowledg the same, as by his Examinations given before the Lord Lieutenant and Council will appear.

On or about the 26th of *March* in the year 1679, I went to the House of the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*, to charge him with sending the said message to the said *Lacy*, by the said *Hurly*; but not meet-

E

ing

ing him, met with his Son-in-Law, Mr. *Piggot*, and discoursed the business with him, and acquainted him what Sir *John Fitz-Gerald* told me. Whereupon the said *Piggot* was very angry with Sir *Thomas Southwell*, and was very much concerned for me, considering the danger I was in; The said Mr. *Piggot* would have me stay until Sir *Thomas* got out of bed, which I refused to do. Then the said *Piggot* promised me that he would give me an account of what Sir *Thomas* his Answer should be to him that afternoon; the said *Piggot* seeming to be much concerned both for Sir *Thomas* and me, in regard that he had Married Sir *Thomas's* Daughter, and his Sister had been my former Wife. In the afternoon the said *Piggot*, and one *Patrick Pepperd* came with him to my house, and brought me a Certificate from the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*, in manner following.

The Certificate.

These are to certify all whom it may concern, That Mr. David Fitz-Gerald did not reflect upon Col. Lacy, or any other Gentleman, directly or indirectly in my hearing. Witness my hand the 26th of March 1679.

Being present,
John Piggot.

Thomas Southwell.

Observations upon Sir *Thomas Southwell's* Denial of the knowledge of the Conspiracy before Aug. 79.

Now Reader observe *March 78, 79. & Aug. 79.* and the said Sir *Thomas* Denial.

The Servant that came to invite me, was *John Herberts*

I Set down this Certificate here, to shew that Sir *Thomas Southwell's* Allegation before the Lord Lieutenant and Council in *Novemb. 1679*, wherein he says, that it was upon the account of a Dispute between him and my self the 26th of *August 1679*, that I made use of his Name, is false and scandalous: But to avoid all such suspicions and false allegations, I thought it convenient to mention the precedent particulars, and the said Certificate; and I desire only such people that be apt to give their Censures of me according to their Inclinations, or such as are desirous to know the truth of the whole matter, that they would consider the time that Sir *John Fitz-Gerald* first acquainted me with the Message from Sir *Thomas Southwell* to Col. *Lacy*, being in *March 1678*, the date of the said Certificate, viz. the 26th of *March 1679*, and the 26th of *August* subsequent to the said Certificate in the said year, is the first time that Sir *Thomas* alledges he and I had any discourse concerning a Conspiracy in *Ireland*; and let any one but Sir *Thomas* judge, whether what he pretends to cover so great a misbehaviour (not to call it worse) be probable.

The next day after I had received the said Certificate, as afore-said, from Mr. *Piggot*; Sir *Thomas Southwell* sent one of his Servants to invite me to Dinner that day; and being in company with him, after Dinner, he prayed me to go to Col. *Lacy*, and to tell him that I did not acquaint Sir *Thomas* with any such matters as were formerly discoursed of; and for the better satisfaction of the said *Lacy*, to shew him Sir *Thomas* his Certificate. I asked Sir *Thomas* what he meant by the

the said Certificate? He answered, That it may be a means to prevent me from receiving any mischief from the said persons. Whereupon considering the Murder of Sir *Edmundbury Godfrey*, and the nature of the people that I had to deal withall, and the dangerous consequences that might upon that occasion happen, I complied with the said Sir *Thomas*, and rode strait to Col. *Lacy's*, and did no less there, than what the said Sir *Thomas* directed me to do, which I conceived with my self was requisite for me to do, if I had not had his advice. Then after I parted with the said *Lacy*, I returned back again to the said Sir *Thomas*, and met him at the house of *James Estreitch*, Innkeeper in *Rakeal*, where he and I tarried until two of the Clock at night; then he promised me faithfully to acquaint the Duke of *Ormond*, or the Earl of *Orory* with the Design against the Government. Then I told the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*, that seeing they brought my name upon the Stage; That if the said Sir *Thomas* did not forthwith propose some way to bring the business to light, that I would ride to *Dublin* and declare the whole matter before the Lord Lieutenant and Council, and that I had no way to avoid being guilty of Misprision of Treason, but to justify that I have from time to time acquainted the said Sir *Thomas* with the aforementioned particulars, and general Design of the Conspirators against the present Government; And told the said Sir *Thomas*, that it would be convenient for him, Mr. *Piggot*, and me, to meet, and to find out some way for to discharge and clear our selves from the knowledge of the said Conspiracy, laying the Dangers before them, and telling him what danger I was in my self by his means; and had I not conceived my self in much danger, in regard the said Sir *Thomas* did me that private injury, I do declare before God Almighty, that I would never have appeared upon the Stage in the nature of an Informer, yet would have kept in with them, and destroyed all their wicked designs privately; and they should never have known nor suspected who should be the instrument thereof; for I would be content to be a preserver of peace and quietness, and yet not glory in the Action; and I take very little pleasure in being called the *Kings Evidence*; besides, my having formerly considered, and being very sensible what affronts and abuses do always attend such persons, whose ill fortune it is to be concerned in such affairs, (the truth thereof I have since found by several lamentable experiences, and great inconveniences which I have met withall, as hereafter shall appear, and be fully proved by such as are of Honour and Quality) are not certainly prevailing Motives to encourage any one to undertake the Employment purely out of love to it.

And to shew how dangerous a thing it is to render my King and Countrey, that faithful Service of Discovering a Horrd Conspiracy against the Life, Crown and Dignity of the one; and Liberty of the other, I shall now proceed to acquaint the World with the

The Names of those that were by when I spoke to Col. *Lacy*, and shewed him the said Certificate, was *James Dowley*, Titular Bishop of *Limerick*, Mr. *Pierce Lacy*, and the Lady *Comin*.

No safety for me after he betrayed me to the Conspirators, but to appear openly----

Request Sir *Thomas* to make a fair end.

If it be gain and honour to others, it's loss, and the greatest dishonour to me that ever I had, and never knew what trouble was before, but now am experienced.-

The many inconveniencies that I met withall upon the account.

the Usages that I have received upon the account of coming to be concerned in giving my Testimony in the aforementioned matters of Treason.

In *May* 1679, or thereabouts, I went to the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*, and sat with him a whole afternoon; who told me, that he did send private intelligence of the particulars to the Earl of *Orrory*, which afterwards proved quite contrary, as hereafter doth appear.

In *July* following, having intelligence that his Grace the Duke of *Ormond* was to be in *Thomas Town* in *August* following; I told the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*, that I thought it convenient for me to wait upon his Grace, and give him an account of the Designs in Agitation against the Government, and that I must make use of the said Sir *Thomas Southwell's* name therein. Then the said Sir *Thomas* told me, That if I did mention any thing of him, that he would have an Action of 10000 *l.* against me; I told him I would try that, and so both discontentedly parted.

In *August* following, being fully satisfied that his Grace the Duke of *Ormond* was come to Captain *Mathews*, in the County of *Tipperrary*, it being less than 30 miles distance from my house thither; The 26th of *August* aforesaid, I went again to the said Sir *Thomas Southwell*, and told him, that I was resolved next morning to set forth for *Thomas-Town* to wait upon the Duke, who I understood was to be there. Then he was earnest with me to pass all by, and say no more thereof; He finding that I would not comply, he pretended that I owed 5 *l.* for a parcel of Land, containing forty Acres, which he held by Lease from *Brook-Bridges*, Esq; now here in *London*; which said Land lying convenient to my concerns, I bought a Tenants interest therein, and possessed my self thereof, and told him that I did not understand any Debt that was owing from me to him. But if he could justly claim any, he should be immediately paid, and told him that 5 *l.* would not break squares betwixt him and me: but he swore he would have an Action of 10000 *l.* against me, and so parted. And whilest I was upon my Examinations afterwards in *Dublin*, to avoid all manner of suspicions, and false pretensions of Debt or Debts to be due from me to any person or persons whatsoever; I declared that I had renounced all manner of Protections that may be granted to preserve me from my Creditors, and left my self open to the Law. Thus far I refer my self to his Grace the Lord Duke of *Ormond*, the Right Honourable *Arthur*, Lord Viscount *Granard*, *Henry* Lord Bishop of *Meath*, and the rest of the Lords of that Honourable Privy-Council.

Now

Now to return to give a further account of what happened with me after I parted with Sir *Thomas Southwel*: The 26 of *August* 1679. As aforesaid, I returned home to my house; and that very night about twelve of the Clock a great multitude of People assembled together about my house, In number 62, Whose names ensue.

John Barratt.
Thomas Fisher.
Thomas Fisher, Junior.
Garrett Lao.
John Pounsey.
Edmond Newland.
Morrice Orname.
Tobias Barrett.
John Magynane.
James Herbert.
Maurice Herbert.
Humphry Farrell.
Nicholas Halpin.
Francis Halpin.
James Farrell.
Daved Lewis.
John Lewis.
Robert Poore.
Charles Cullanoni.
Henry Gibbens.
James Stretch.
Nicholas Stretch.
James Mc' Teigue O Coner.
Moroug's Madagane.
Patrick Mc' Cooke.
Samuel Parker.
Chill O Coner.
John Wall.

John Bluct.
Edmund O Daniel.
Teige Shaghinssy.
Michaell Noane.
Donough Mc' Teige.
James Bren.
John Creagh.
Richard Nasb.
Charles Harrison.
Gerald Simkin.
John Spicer.
James Mc' Nicholas.
Francis Taylor.
John James.
Maurice Rauleigh.
Garret Rauleigh.
Hugh the Butcher.
John Mc' Teigh.
John Murfey.
John Mortimer.
Daniel Cavanagh.
John. Mc' Teigh.
Maurice Lewy.
Michaell Honahan.
Mortough Shea.
Teigh Mulkerin, &c.

*These are they
 who broke my
 House about 12
 a clock at night.*

Others to the number above mentioned.

All the said persons were well armed, some with Swords naked, some with Axes, Sledges, Pikes and Spades, and such like Armes, they broke down my Gate and the Door of my Dwelling house all to peeces, and I had no other way to keep them off, then by throwing Chairs Tables and such Rubbish in their way to barr them from coming up Stairs; They all Unanimously crying out Kill the Rebel and Knock him in the head before he goes any further, or brings Sir *Thomas Southwel* and the Gentlemen to trouble: Those words they spoke in the hearing of twenty sufficient People, who have already proved it, though to little purpose, they being Countenanced and Favoured by Judge *Reynolds*, rather then brought to Condigne Punishment; At last with much ado and with the

*Slipped down by
one Philip Gliffane
lain out of a
Window some
two stories high
for to save my
life about 1 a
clock at night.*

assistance of one *Philip Gliffane* a Gunsmith who came with some work to my house that night, the said *Gliffane* going up to a Garret where he was in bed, brought me down a pease of *Irish Frize*, and got one end thereof bound under both my armes, and twisted the other end about the Frame of a Table, and pulled down a Pane of the Glass, and slipt me down out of the Window some two stories high, and by that meanes I made my escape.

*Mr Aylmers
assistance to me
to secure the
said persons.*

As soon as I got out at Liberty, I sent several of my Servants and Tenants &c. Into several parts about me, and went my self to Mr. *Aylmer*, a Justice of the Peace, who did not only command the Constables, but several others to be aiding and assisting to suppress and apprehend the said persons; so that after I returned from Mr. *Aylmer*, being a mile and a half distance betwixt his house and mine, in two hours time I got together about thirty men and apprehended ten of them within my house, and twenty about it, the rest made their escape, and two other persons that we apprehended made their escape likewise, and those that were in Custody were brought before Mr. *Aylmer*; after examinations taken the said Mr. *Aylmer* Writ a Mittimus to have the said Persons committed to *Limerick* Goal: In the interim two of Sir *Thomas Southwells* Servants rode with all speed after the said persons, and produced Sir *Thomas Southwells* Superfedeas under his hand and Seal, and on sight thereof the Constables, who had the said People in Custody, dismissed them from being Prisoners, and so returned home again.

*The said Persons
discharged
by Sir Thomas
Southwells
Superfedeas.*

*Sir Thomas
Southwells re-
quest to the
Sheriff.*

*Apprehended
upon an execu-
tion being bound
for a relation of
mine*

*A Letter from
Sir Thomas
Southwel.*

Mr. *Aylmer*, and I continued together in an Inn all this while, and about an hour and a halfes time or more after the said People were discharged, the high Sheriff of the County of *Limerick*'s man came to me in the presence of Mr. *Aylmer*, and told me that the Sheriff would speak with me, I rode straight to the Sheriff, being two miles distance from that place, when he and I met, he told me that he was sorry that he could not avoid apprehending me upon an execution granted the Assizes before, I being bound for one *David Fitz-Gerald* a near relation of mine, to the Commissioners of H^{is} Majesties Revenue, he being Receivour of part of the said Revenue in the County of *Limerick*, and not discharging his Account I was sued upon the Bond as aforesaid, but saies the Sheriff, Mr. *Fitz Gerald* I pray you not to be dissatisfied with me, and though I appear against you, it is not my action, then produced me a Letter from Sir *Thomas Southwel* to him, the Contents thereof importing that the said Sir *Thomas Southwel* did understand that the said Sheriff had an execution in his hands against me upon the account aforesaid, and that I was then at the house of Mr. *Aylmer*, and that if the Sheriff did not immediately execute his Office on me, that the said Sir *Thomas* would send to the Commissioners to acquaint them thereof, and that the Sheriff himself should become liable for the payment of the said Debt, if
the

the Sheriff did not performe what Sir Thomas requested as afore said. That night I lay at the Sheriffs, and instead of close imprisonment, I had my Liberty, and had one of the best Lodgings in the house, and very good entertainment, and next day discharged my self thereof, being a Sunday, and staying at Captain Odells, who was then Sheriff, till after Sermon and Dinner, in the mean while comes one Henry Gibbins Servant to the said Sir Thomas Southwel, and coming up to the Room, delivers a Letter from Sir Thomas Southwel to the said Sheriff, after he perused the said Letter, he gets up from the Table, and calls me into a Drawing Room, and shewed me the said Letter, which imported, the said Sir Thomas requesting the Sheriff for to keep me in Custody until he had Clapt an action of 1000. l. against me for making use of his name in the Conspiracy. The Sheriff returned his answer that he knew his Office better then to do Illegal things, and that he was sorry that Sir Thomas Southwel should stand so much in his own light as to propose it.

The second letter from Sir Thomas Southwel.

That night I returned home to my own House, and was come no sooner thither than I had notice that Sir Thomas Southwel sent Messengers to and fro to all the Popish Gentry thereabouts, and that the said Sir Thomas, John Piggot, John Purdon, John Bourke and several others were all the day before, untill ten of the Clock at night contriveing together which way they might prevent my informing against them, or take away my life, their skill a little time after I found out by experience, some of their own Company sending me a full account of their proceedings from time to time, they haveing at last concluded to charge me with high Treason (but God be praised they could not Impeach me of a meaner Crime,) at the last there was an Instrument procured, who as I have been told received five pound in money, a weather-beaten Perriwig, and a cast suite of Cloathes, and that the said Instrument by name Walter Huet a Glasier should give his Information before Simon Eyton and John Piggot Esquires, and before no others, one being my Father-in-Law, and the other being my Brother-in-law, thinking that they would for my sake Compound and Patch up the business and stifle the Evidence of the said Huet, or Thwart me in the Prosecution of the Conspiracy afore said, but finding nothing done in it that night, next morning having some occasions to speak with the high Sheriff, I had ordered one of my own Servants to meet me with Fresh Horses in the Road at a place called Brúree, in order to go that night strait to the Duke of Ormond at Thomas Town, and went then to the Sheriff, and after I had done with him, rid away, and met my Servant at the place appointed, who told me that most of the Gentlemen of that part of the County were in Rakeal, Nameing Collonel Eyton, Sir John Fitz-Gerald, Major Fitz Gerald, Mr. Piggot, and at least twenty more, and that it was reported that I Fled upon the the accompt of High

Treason sworne against me by *Walter Huet*, and that I was gone to the Duke of *Ormonds*, in hopes to discharge my self thereof, and impeach them: Taking the thing immediately into consideration I did conceive my self in danger and returned back to the Sheriff again, who did very well approve of my returne; then I took Pen and Ink and writ some part of depositions, and desired him to send an expresse to the Duke of *Ormond* that night, which was done, and I went my self to this meeting in *Rukeal*, in the Road I met Sir *John Fitz Gerald* Galloping towards me at a high rate and Sir *Thomas Southwells* man, besides his own Servants with him; He told me that he was very glad to meet me and that I saved him that Journy, and that he had no other business but to follow me to the Duke of *Ormond* at the request of Sir *Thomas Southwel* and several others, and told me that there was high Treason sworn against me by *Walter Huet*, before *Simon Eyton* and *John Figgot* Esquires: I told him I did not value what any man in the Kingdome could swear, or say against me, Sir *John* saying then, that it was the desire of Sir *Thomas Southwel* and the rest, that I should Omit proceeding any further in the said designe, and that they would prevail with *Walter Huet* to desist his prosecuting me; I told him that I never did exceed the Limits of the Law, and did understand the liberty of a Subject, and as long as I kept my self within the bounds thereof, that I did not value any malicious contrivance or prosecution; then the said Sir *John* returned into Town along with me, and I being fully satisfied by what Sir *John* told me, and that the said Magistrates had received an Information against me of Treason, I went to them where they were in the presence of Sir *John Fitz-Gerald*, Major *Fitz-Gerald*, Mr. *John Hurly*, Mr. *White* and several others, gave one of the said Magistrates my Sword, to another my Pistols, and submitted my self to the Law, and asked them whether I was baileable. Whereupon they said I was not, then the Information was repeated over by the said *Huet* in these words.

Profered Major
Fitz Gerald
Mr. John Hur-
ly securities.

WALTER HUET'S Information.

That in *March*, 1677, he heard Mr. *Fitz-Gerald* say (meaning me) that he wished for the King in *France* to be landed in *Ireland* with three score or four score thousand men, and that Mr. *Fitz Gerald* said that he himself would raise men and help the *French* against our Majesty the King of *England*; and that he the said *Huet* did aske Mr. *Fitz-Gerald* what would maintain such a great Army in *Ireland*, and that Mr. *Fitz-Gerald* told him, the King of *Englands* Revenue; that then the said *Huet* should aske Mr. *Fitz-Gerald* what he would avails by that, and that Mr. *Fitz-Gerald* said that thereby he could repossess himself of his Estate, which he

Huers Informa-
tion against me.

he has been unjustly kept out of, this was on *Monday* the 30th. of *August*. 1679.

Then I spoke to the Two Magistrates in this manner. Gentlemen you see what *Walter Huet* swears against me, as well as you have been pleased to examine him the particulars of what he had Sworn against me, I shall desire that you will reexamine him to shew reasons why he did not declare this since *March*, 1677, before this time being *August*, 1679, They knowing that I seldome or never missed one Assizes or Sessions in *Limerick* for several years before. The said *Huet* being commanded to shew his reasons why he did not prosecute me sooner, said that he did conceive that I was a Resolute Gentleman, and that he was afraid that I should run him through or Pistol him; then I desired that he may be questioned why he did not being once at the Assizes at *Limerick* and seeing me there at the Bench, he said then that he thought I had too many Friends there, and that he did suppose they would not take notice of him; then I desired to know what Motives induced him now more than at any time past to come before them Two Magistrates which he knew to be the nearest Friends that I had, then said he I give no more reasons then I have, and so parted.

That night I had liberty of the Magistrates to go home to my own house without any Guards, next day I returned to them, and desired that they should send their Warrant with me to *Limerick*, and had a Guard to attend me thither of thirty horse, the Assizes being just coming on three daies after, at which I expected my Trial: after I got into *Limerick* and was received by the Marshal, there all persons in the Counties of *Limerick* and *Clare*, admiring what my Crimes should be, I had several of the best of them come to me there, to know what the occasion should be.

In the mean while the Sheriff, having sent part of my Depositions to his Grace the Duke of *Ormond*, as I formerly mentioned by express, his Grace upon perusal thereof sent Special Orders to the said Sheriff, that he should on sight thereof come along with me to *Clonmel*, where his Grace was then, the Judges being then upon the Circuit, the said Sheriff having received the said Order, at the bounds of that County, where he was to receive the Judges, all coming together to *Limerick* on Saturday night, the said Sheriff as soon as he came thither, came to me to the *Marshallsea*, and shewed me the said Order, which was very welcome to me, because it would set me at Liberty (never having been a minute in any restraint before those three nights).

Then the said Sheriff, and I got ready to go to the Duke, and did set forth from *Limerick* about a elven of the Clock the said night, the night following his Grace being told that we were come to Town, sent for me, and upon further discourse of the said matters, after he had taken part of my depositions, asked me whether I feared

any thing of the Treason sworn against me in *Limerick* as aforefaid, and if I did fuppofe that there would be any dainger, that his Grace would give me a Pardon, I answered that for my knowledge in the faid Conſpiracy againſt the Government that I would accept of his Majeſties gracious Pardon, though I did not doubt to prove that I had diſcharged my ſelf thereof, by acquainting Magiſtrates from time to time, of my knowledge thereof, and for any other Crime, excepting the ſame, that I renounced all manner of Pardons and Protections, and that in *Limerick*, I would truſt to a fair Trial, this I refer to the Duke of *Ormond*.

Whereupon his Grace was pleaſed to order the Sheriff to return me my Arms, and not to be uſed in the nature of a Priſoner, and then we returned to *Limerick* to receive my Trial, the Aſſizes ſitting then, the Grand Jury as I was informed were unwilling to returne *Billa vera* upon the Information of *Walter Huet*, againſt me, I haveing notice thereof, uſed my intereſt in the ſaid Grand Jury, and deſired that they might find the Bill againſt me, that the ac- cuſation might be publickly known, and the occaſion thereof, which was accordingly done, the under named perſons impannell'd for to try me.

The Names of the Jurors.

Sir George Inglesby, Kt.	Nicholas Munckton, Eſq;
Ralph Wilſon, Eſq;	John Bury, Eſq;
David Wilſon, Eſq;	Haffard Powel, Eſq;
George Ailmer, Eſq;	John Mansfeild Eſq;
Arthur Ormesby, Eſq;	George Evans, Eſq;
John Croker, Eſq;	John Dixon, Gent.

Then they proceeded to the Trial, and after hearing of the Witneſſes, who contradicted each other very Materially, nor did either of their Tales agree together, the matter appear'd ſo frivolous or rather ſet up by Practice, that the Jury without any Heſitation pronounc'd me not Guilty.

Then the Grand Jury returned *Billa vera* upon the Indictment againſt the perſons who broke my houſe; then the Clerk of the Crown called them by their names upon their Recognizance, the number of fourteen or fifteen did appear, Judge *Reynolds* adjudging the Indictment to be Vexatious having 31 mentioned therein, but would not have the patience to hear the Trial, being worked upon by others as I will Juſtifie, put me off, having at leaſt

Sir Richard Reynolds would not admit the Trial at the requeſt of others, but diſmiſſed them,

least twenty witnesses then in Court to prove the matter of Fact, and ordered the said people to be dismissed, and addmitted them not to their Trial; then I prayed his Lordship in open Court to do me Justice, and to let the Trial of the said persons that did appear, proceed, but all to no purpose.

Afterwards I went up to *Dublin*, and petitioned to the Lord Lieutenant and Council, and did set forth in the said petition the greivances and Injustice done unto me by Sir *Richard Reynolds* as I conceived, by putting off the Trial aforesaid; after the said Petition was read, I was called to appear before the Lord Lieutenant and Council, the Lord Chief Justice *Keating* alledging before the Lord Lieutenant and Council, that the people aforesaid were *extra*, But Sir *Richard Reynolds* could not deny they were in Court: Which I will justifie, maintaine and prove by many good witnesses, but they having no other way to smother the Illegal proceeding in *Limerick*, than to say that the people did not appear.

Keating, and Reynolds.

The Lord Lieutenant and Council upon full consideration of my complaint did grant the ensuing Commission to examine the matters aforesaid.

Ormond.

*By the Lord Lieutenant and
Council of Ireland.*

WHereas *David Fitz Gerald of Rakeal*, in the County of *Limerick* Esq; hath exhibited an Information at this Board of several enormous Abuses done to him to the Scandal of his Majesties Government. We therefore appoint and Authorize the High Sheriff of the County of *Limerick*, Sir *William King* Kt. Governor of *Limerick*, Sir *George Inglesby*, Kt. *Simon Eyton*, *George Ailmer*, *John Odel* and *Richard Maguair*, Esquires, or any four or more of them to examine the matters in the Information hereunto annexed, and make speedy return of the truth thereof to this Board by examination of Witnesses, or otherwise in Convenient time, that such course may be taken therein as to Justice appertains, Given at the Council Chamber in *Dublin* the 23th. of December, 1679.

*The Commission from the
Lord Lieuten.*

*Michael Armachanus, Chan.
Johan. Dublin.*

Aran.

*Henry Midenff.
Blessinton.*

Ranalaugh.

Robert Fitz. Gerald.

Thomas Jones.

John Davys, Secretary of State.

The said Commission was executed the third, fourth and fifth daies of February, 1679. By Garret Fitz Gerald, Esq; high Sheriff of the County of Limerick, Simon Eyton, George Ailmer and John Odel, Esquires, Upon the full examination and hearing of ten sufficient witnesses, who proved the particulars mentioned in the said Information as aforesaid; and finding twenty more ready to averre the same, Returned the said Commission to the Lord Lieutenant and Council with the depositions of the ten that swore positive to the names of those that broke my house, and heard them say kill the Rebel and knock him in the head before he goes any further; and the said Commissioners did Certifie to the Lord Lieutenant and Council that there had been a great many more ready to depose the same, as the ten did in their depositions aforesaid.

Whereupon several of the riotous persons aforesaid were again taken up, and brought to Tryal, and though the breaking my house in the night, and menacing words before recited were fully sworn against them by divers Witnesses, against whom they had no colour of Exception, yet such was the prevalency of the Conspirators, and the Jury so prepared, that they would not find them Guilty.

After which I went to *Dublin*, and from thence came for *England*, to give in my Testimony to His Majesty, as I had before done to His Grace the Lord Lieutenant, and Council, from whom I had good encouragement to proceed, and which I have herein before punctually publisht.

*An Appendix in a Seasonable Address to his Country-men,
The Natives of Ireland.*

Dear Country-men !

MY Family and self having so severely suffered for their Loyalty, by the late Rebellion in Ireland, and having the opportunity to discover another most horrid Conspiracy against our Gracious Sovereign, for investing a *Forreiner* with that Kingdom; and subverting his Majesties Government there, I thought it incumbent upon me as a *Christian*, and in duty obliged as a *Loyal Subject* to my King, and in *Charity* and kindness to all you my dear (though many of you very much misled) Country-men ! to bring the same to light, that so a vigilant eye and strict hand being kept over the malecontents in that Kingdome, that they may not be seduced by the ill arts and specious pretences of their cruel Priests, whereby the *Flood* and *Confusions*, the *horrors*, and *desolations* necessarily attending such insurrections and desperate *Rebellions*, may be obviated and prevented.

I confess my *Education* and course of life (more influenc'd by *Mars* than *Mercury*) renders me very little skill'd in the art of *perswasion*, and had not this extraordinary occasion, and the command of Authority oblig'd me, I should have been far enough from appearing in *Print*, but since I have so just and necessary a call thereunto, I would gladly improve the opportunity to give a few advertisements

efforts which well weighed and pursued might be of good use to you and your posterity.

I know I make this address to you upon very disadvantageous Terms, for tis not to be doubted but your crafty Priests (who make no Conscience of slandering any mans name (nay of Murdering his person, where it may either tend to conceal their own Villainies, or advance their Divelish cause) have already fill'd you with abundance of *prejudice*, and represented me to you as the worst of men, but my satisfaction is, that as God and my own Conscience bear me witness that I have declared nothing but what is most punctually true, so there are too many of you (the Priests and Gentry especially) that *know* it to be so, and that how loud and and causelessly soever, they may rail at me, yet at the same time their own Souls give their Tongues the *lie*, and therefore my comfort is that how much soever what I shall say to you may be against your present bigotted humour, yet it is still most conducive both to your *duty* and your real *Interest*, which I heartily wish you may not too late be sensible of, it being much better to *prevent* than *Repent*.

Affliction, (sayeth the wisest of men) makes people *wise*; and tis a Proverb that *Experience is the Mistress of Fools*. How incorrigibly *stupid* then must you be, whom such *tedious* (I am sorry I cannot say *undeserved*, nor *unprovoked*) Afflictions, and so many repeated lamentable *Experiments* of the *ill success* and fatal consequences of *Intriguing* with Forreiners, and *Rebelling* against your Lawful Governours, has not yet been able to contain within bounds of Loyalty and obedience; tell me seriously and in earnest, do you think that the blood of two hundred thousand peaceable Protestants and Loyal Subjects by you most Barbarously Butcher'd in the Rebellion begun, 23 *October*, 1641, does not yet Cry loud for vengeance upon you, the persons, or at least defendants of those, whose accursed hands were embued in that detestable Massacre? And yet what did you gain by it, though you had the Popes Blessing, and his Bulls of Pardon, and his Nuncio to head you, and promises from *Spain* to assist you, and though you started your Rebellion at a Juncture when *Scotland*, and presently after *England* (by the arts of the same Jesuitical and Popish Incendiaries who blew you up into a flame) were engaged in a Common Combustion, and consequently in the eye of Reason unable to yield any assistance towards crushing the hellish designs, yet do you not remember that Providence was pleased to defeat your Projects, to blast your enterprizes, to confound your Forces, to give you up to so total a conquest, till at last you became the scorn of all the world, and there wanted but little to render you as vagrant, as contemptible, as odious as *Jews*, and root out the memory of the *Irish* Nation from off the face of the Earth.

And since by the Mercies of God and superabundant Indulgence of our Gracious King, great numbers of you are returned from a desperate Exile, and reinstated in your forlorn Possessions, (at least

to a greater degree than most of you had reason to hope for) what a most prodigious Ingratitude both to Heaven and your Earthly Sovereign will it be for you again to tempt the fates, and engage your selves in new Rebellions? What can you expect from such undertakings (equally foolish and wicked) but everlasting slavery and utter irretrievable Ruine?

Wherefore since those attempts however guilded over with plausible pretensions by your designing Clergy-men (who having nothing themselves to lose, are like the desperate fallen Angels, always tempting you to mischief, that they may have the more numerous partners both in their Guilt and punishment) are in themselves most nefarious and unjust, and tend to nothing but destruction; I shall endeavour to lay before you the sandy foundations wherein all the hopes are built, and demonstrate that you have as little Policy as right in such black (and hitherto still blasted) endeavours.

As for your Army which you expect out of *France*, I am apt to think it's a *delusory medium* drawn over your eyes by the Jesuitical party to deceive you; and no Prince will give you any assistance, until you your selves first appear in action, for till then, they cannot give any trust to you (as it happened in the three *Spanish* Invasions) and after you are broken into action, you must depend upon their Charity and discretion whether they will aid you or no, but be assured their supplies will be but faint and small, as you have found before (from the *Spaniards*) by sad experience: There is no confidence to be put in the power of any Forraigne Prince, but it will be your duty as well as wisdom to rely upon the goodness of your own natural Prince, he having been so merciful and indulgent unto you

Nor is it reasonably to be imagined that any *Christian Prince*, much less the most *Christian King* should commit or countenance so horrid an act, as to raise a Rebellion in the Territories of another Prince, who is the greatest and best (I had almost said) the only friend he hath in *Europe*; but I am not ignorant, that it is a *French Maxim*, that a man ought not to be a slave to his word, that Interest is Right, and all things Lawful that make for their Princes Glory and Grandeur; suppose therefore he should permit some of his forces to go over into *Ireland*, as he did unto *Portugal* contrary to the faith of the *Pyrenean treaty*, and the *Irish* Papists to joyn with them, it will assuredly prove the ruine and confusion of them; if it be considered, that the *English* have all the strong holds in that Kingdom at their command, and how easily an Army may be transmitted out of *England* and *Scotland* into *Ireland*, and what an obstinate defence the *English* there will make, before they will depart with these estates they now enjoy, and which they have acquired with so much expence of blood; the *French* have reason to understand and remember the *English* gallantry; if they have forgot, let them enquire at *Poiters*, *Agincourt* or *Cressy*, and they will tell them; But in case the *French King* should own the action, and vigorously appear for them; without doubt there are some so highly concerned in point of interest (considering the Situation of that Kingdom) that he will draw the greatest Naval power

of *Europe* against him, and of what pernicious consequence it may be to his glory, its suitable to his great judgment to consider; except he could post his *Naval* as he did his *land* forces, that they could not (as they said) be *attacqued*; yet that imagination was confuted at the relief of *Alons*, and in case the *French* King should transmit an Army into *Ireland*, the conquest of it would not be like a *Goal* at foot-ball, in an instant, but a work of time, and the more forces they send thither, the *Irish* for want of provision would the sooner be undone, for a *Famine* hath ever put a period to all invasions or rebellions there; it cannot reasonably be conceived that the *French* should relieve them by *Sea*, when they will have such a great power against them; for if the *French* keep the *Sea*, they will be fought, and then let them consider the consequence; if they keep in *Brest*, which is their only Port from whence they can expect relief, they will be *blocked up*, or their Ships fired in the Port; the Glory of that action of *Blake*, at the *Canaries* is worthy of their great consideration, who entered their Port and fired all their Ships in Harbor, though there were *thirteen block houses*, Castles, and workes where an innumerable multitude of Cannon were planted, and most furiously fired against the *English* Ships; where there is a good *wind* and *tide*, and noble resolutions (as I hope they will find there is in the *English*) they need not fear any artillery whatsoever: Let the *Irish* remember their success when they were encouraged by the *Spaniard* (and assisted by the *Pope*) to rebel, the *Spaniard* being then the most potent Prince in *Europe*; And in case the most Christian King should put an Army into his Fleet to land, except he were Prince of *the Air*, and could command the *Sea*, and *Tempests*, he is not sure to land them; let him think of the expedition of *Charles* the 5th. against *Argiers*, and the ill and untimely fate which did attend it, however I am sure he cannot forget *Goree*.

Nor let the *Irish* who have Estates, and who differ from the *English* in point of *Religion*, imagine that the communion of profession may exempt them more than the *English* from the *Ambition*, and *Covetousness* of the *French*; what they may expect from a Forraigner they may conjecture by the answer which the Duke of *Medina Sidonia* gave in this case in *Eighty Eight*, that his *Sword* knew no difference between a *Catholic* and a *Heretick*, but that he came to make way for his Master And let them be assured that, that which the *English* have left them of their Estates, the *French* will take from them, for though themselves be *Catholic*s, yet their Estates will be *Heretick*s; It's possible that some of the meaner sort of *Irish* (if the *French* should prevaile) may mend their conditions, but those who have Estates will by their adhering to the *French* be assuredly undone; For the *French* will not think them fitting to be entrusted with their Estates, or to be *faithful* to him, who were rebellious to their own natural King and Sovereign Lord.

For King *Charles* the second is your *natural Prince*, descended from your own *Blood Royal*, he being lineally descended from *Fingalins*, second Son of the then Reigning King of *Ireland*, and first of *Scotland*,

which was antiently peopled from thence; So you ought to pay His Majesty the Allegiance due from natural born Subjects, not from a *conquered people*, which now you can no more esteem your selves.

There are about 10000 *Irish* born to Estates, and are partly dispossessed these for their losses, and others for restraint of, and in matters of Religion are *discontented*, but they do not consider their own Rebellion caused their ruin; by their murmurings I perceive let the sentence be never so *just*, it will not hinder the condemned from rising against the Judge.

Though some *Bravo's*, *Hadlanders*, and *Needemites* may joyn with Foreign Forces, I am apt to think the wise and considerate people (tho Papists) will not forfeit their Allegiance to their natural Prince; for proof of which fidelity in this kind you need go no further than the late Wars in the time of the Earl of *Tyrene*, wherein they were assaulted with as powerful temptations to move them from their *Loyalty* as possibly could be presented unto them, for at that time not only the *King of Spain* did confederate himself with the Rebels and landed his forces at *Kinsale* for their assistance, but the *Bishop of Rome* also, with his *Breves* and *Bulls* solicited the Nobility and Gentry of *Ireland*, to revolt from their obedience to the Queen, declaring that the *English* did fight against the *Catholick Religion*, and ought to be opposed as much as the *Turks*, promising the same favour to such as should set upon them, as he doth unto such as fight against *Infidels*; And yet for all these promises and threatnings of the *Pope*, which was also seconded by a Declaration of the Divines of *Salamanca* and *Valadolid*, not only many of the Lords and Gentlemen did constantly adhere in their Allegiance to the Queen, but were also encouraged so to do by the *English* Priests within the *Pale* in the County of *Wexford* tho they were of Popish profession.

I pray consider that horrid *Massacre* of the *English* by the *Irish* committed after they had lived together for *forty years* in the greatest security and happiness, how by the *English* they were so broken, that there were scarce an *Irish* man through *Ireland* that durst hold up his hand against them; and the Kingdome became so depopulated, that considering what vast numbers of people were *destroyed* by those three great Judgments of Heaven the Sword, Famine and Plague, it's thought that in the Conclusion of that war, there was not left living the *eighth part* of all the *Irish* nation, the whole Country being wasted and consumed; where for ten sometimes *twenty* or *thirty miles*, nay indeed almost all the Kingdome over (except about the *English* Garrisons) one should nor behold *man*, *bird* or *beast* appear, the very wild Fowls of the air, and the wild beasts of the Fields, being either dead or having departed out of those desolations, and thousands of the *Irish* were dayly starving for want of Food, who did in their extremity, ordinarily feed on the Soldiers Horses, for which no satisfaction was at any time received but with the loss of their Lives, nay the Famine

at last grew to that height that they did not only feed upon Horses, but upon dead *Corps* taken out of the *Graves*. All which must be acknowledged a just Judgment of God inflicted on them for their notorious *Barbarism* committed in their Massacring of the English.

A sad Tragedy, and may it never be re-acted ; but now His Majesty, having out of his Princely goodness restored many *Irish Papists* (which did little deserve so signal a favour) to their *Estates*, and to live where they please without any restraint, and to injoy all things in plenty ; and the whole Kingdom beginning to flourish and recover its glory ; now to *rebel* against so gracious and merciful a Prince, and to bring the same Calamities , and worse (if possible) upon the Nation, and by betraying it into the hands of a Foreign power, are Acts so full of horror and amazement, that no man I should think, (were I not convinced from their own mouths to the contrary) could be so ungratefully wicked.

You cannot rationally think, that *France* will ever give you any considerable assistance, but may engage you in a Rebellion, and then leave you to shift for your selves: And so by that means bring a ruin and extirpation upon your selves and Posterities; consider the late, but never to be forgotten case of the *Messinenses*, who cast off their Obedience to the King of *Spain* their Natural Prince, and fled to the protection of the *French* ; after they had by their Taxes and Oppressions drained away all their Mony, the *French* deserted them ; and they thereby became exposed to the displeasure of an enraged Prince, and to all the Miseries and calamities imaginable : The *Messinenses* of all People on the *Mediterranean*, being before the most flourishing, but since their Rebellion the poorest and most miserable. Let this example be an Answer to all the *French* Charms the Priests shall lay before you, and take time to consider, if you shall be so imprudent and desperately wicked as to

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cast off your Obedience to your Natural Prince, whether the same Fate and Calamities may not attend you. Take it for a *Maxime* of Eternal Truth, and which you must understand by your dear bought experience, that after a Rebellion is suppressed, the King is *more King*, and the Subject *more Subject*; Many whose Ancestors were deep in the late Rebellion, by his Majesties Royal favour are now resettled in their Estates, if not in all, yet in such a part as may give them a comfortable subsistence (and I must tell you it's better to have a *piece of Bread*, then no Bread at all.) Have you not a free exercise of your *Religion* throughout the whole Kingdom? Have you not your *titular* Arch-Bishops, Bishops, Vicar-General, Provincial Consistories, Deans, Abbots, Priors, &c. Who without controul exercise a voluntary jurisdiction over those of the Romish perswasion? Are the *Penal Laws* put in execution against you? Have you not as great, if not greater freedom, and *indulgence* than those of the *Evangelical Communion*? Certainly if all these Princely Favours and tender proceedings of His Sacred Majesty towards the Papists in that Kingdom cannot contain them within the due bounds of *Loyalty* and Obedience, they deserve to be made standing *Monuments* of his Justice.

But imagine the worst, let it be granted that the *French* are Landed in *Ireland*, and possessed of a Port or two there, and that many of the Natives (for all 'tis like will not forfeit their Allegiance) revolt and resort unto the *French*, yet I hope there is no such danger, as is vulgarly conceived in losing that Kingdom, now that they have timely notice to prevent. For a Plot discovered is more than half prevented, and if after such fair and frequent warning we should suffer such an important place to be lost, we are sure the most careless or infatuated People in the World.

For Ports gained must be maintained and supplied by
Sea;

Sea ; which how uncertain and difficult it is to effect, our *Fleets* being better then theirs, is unanswerable : To attend the defence of them only would but multiply their trouble and charges, and give the English there no other Harm then some inconvenience ; from the which, time will free them ; for no tenable Fortifications can ever hold out the Siege of a powerful Assailant, that is Master of the Field, and so it must be granted the *English* will or may be.

An Invader whose Object is Conquest, must not contain himself in a Port, but draw into Field ; great Armies require a World of Horses for the draught of Artillery, Ammunitions, Victuals, Utenils for the War, Tents, Baggage, &c. Which cannot either be brought from *France* nor furnished by the Rebels. The County of *Kerry* is the Place designed for their Landing, a very remote Part as any in *Ireland*, yet furnisht with a good Haven; but the *English* will be very imprudent (wheresoever they shall Land) if they drive not the Country before them, whereby they will fail both of *Horses* for draught, (without which they cannot march) and of Victuals or any thing else, which may be useful unto them.

So did the *French* deal with *Charles* the Fifth Anno 1536. Who entred *France* by way of *Province*, with an Army of 50000 *Horse* and *Foot*, they Commanded all the Horse and Cattle in the County to be driven out of the Enemies reach, the Corn, Straw, and what else might be food for *Horses*, and all other Moveables to be carryed into Places of Safety.

The *Ovens* and *Mills* to be broken down, the *Wines* in Casks to be Staved, & for corrupting of Waters cause Corn to be cast into the Wells, leaving the Country like a vast *Desert* ; whereby the Emperours Army within few days (almost starved and diseased) was not 25000 strong.

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If *Charles* could not upon a *Continent*, provide himself of Carriages sufficient for the use of his Army, or Food for his hungry Soldiers in the plentiful Country of *Province*, how much less shall an *Invader* by Sea be able to bring them with him ?

Province being thus used, and the Cities well guarded, the *Invader* for want of Relief in the Country, must eat up his own Stores : And within short time (if they be many) will be Consumed, if few will be Forced out.

In the number of *Horses* the strength of Armies principally consists, the Transporting of 5000 *Horse* requires more Tonnage than 30000 *Foot* ; and how they will be able to Transport any number of *Horse* (without which they are of no Power) the *English Fleet* being at Sea, I must confess I am to learn.

The way of Conquest is to provoke Battel, the advantage of the Defendant is to avoid it, but upon appearance of an assured Victory, which the Masters of the Field may do at Pleasure.

The lingering of time dayly consumes the Invaders, both by *Sickness*, light Skirmishes (which upon every days March, at Fords, Bridges, and Streights they cannot avoid) and by other Casualties.

Their supply will be slow, and subject to peril, whilst wants of the *English* (they having their Country to Friend) will easily be supplied.

But you will say the *French* can at their pleasure supply them, with Men, Victuals, and all things necessary for their carrying on the War, by reason of their great number of Ships.

I am apt to think this will prove a great mistake in you,
they

they will find it impossible to give any succors, when the *English Fleet* is at Sea, as you may assure your selves it will be, when there is the least appearance of an Invasion; and I must tell you its not the multitude of Ships that promise Victory, a few good nimble Ships of War are a stronger Fleet, than any Fleet can be composed of greater numbers, over pressed with heavy Luggage, they are not only in themselves useles, but a cumber to those that should fight, and the losing of them is the apparent loss of the Enterprize.

There was never a more Magnificent Fleet swimming upon the Ocean, then that which *Philip* the second brought upon the *English Coast*, a Navy so well Manned and Ammunitioned, that the like till than was never seen, it was the *Glory of the Sea*, yet it was defeated by her Majesties own Fleet, built in her own Realm, the Captains, Pilots, Master Gunners, and Sailors, all her natural Subjects, nothing was borrowed from her Neighbours, whereby her Triumph was more glorious; that famous Victory was not gotten by chance or by favour of Winds, and Storms, but next unto God, by the goodness of the English Ships, the Valour and Dexterity of their Gunners, and Saylor; and especially by the conduct and direction of the Commanders: Why then should the *French Fleet* be now more terrible than that was in Eighty eight, nay the English are to doubt them less, since by the Providence of His Majesty the *Royal Navy*, and the Merchants Ships are now more in number, better fitted for the War, and greater of burthen than they ever were.

“If you begin a War (or rather a Rebellion, for so it is)
 “consider all Home and Foreign Commerce will cease, Justice
 “falls to the ground, good men oppressed, Innocency trodden under
 “foot, Churches destroyed, your Country wasted, Christians
 “murthered, Women deflowred, and the Laws contemned, what
 “shall I say, consider your own and Irelands late mournful and
 K “deplo-

"deplorable Condition. I shall therefore ever put it into my Litany, from Heresies, Schism, Sedition and Rebellion,
 " Good Lord deliver us.

There are Five things which will secure *Ireland* against any Power whatsoever.

- I. A Navy well Furnished, to cut off all their correspondence with any King or State.
- II. An Army well paid to keep up Garrisons.
- III. Laws well executed to alter their mischievous Constitutions.
- IV. A Ministry well settled to Civilize and instruct them.
- V. And lastly, Strict care taken to punish all Priests, and Jesuits, that are the Nurses of Rebellion, disturbers of States, Mortal Enemies to all Protestant Governments, and indeed the Common Incendiaries of the Kingdom of *Ireland*.

But I shall not enlarge or presume to direct particularly on these necessary Heads, but humbly leave them to the consideration of Authority.

Whilst to you my *Beloved*, (as long as you shall continue *Loyal*) *Country-men*! I apply my self, whatever ill Thoughts that you may have of me, all I shall return in answer is, *Am I your Enemy because I tell you the Truth?* I have represented to you the fatal Consequences of your past Rebellions, and shewn you the improbability of these present designs, which I certainly know, many ill men are fomenting and carrying on amongst you. But besides all these Moral and Politick discouragements, I would further have you take notice, that there is a most just God in Heaven, who by his Providence and uncontroulable Power will assuredly blast all your attempts; and Revenge the
 Blood

Blood of Innocents, and punish Murder, and Rebellion, and Treachery ; and support and preserve his true Religion and Worship against all the most crafty, most plausible, and most powerful devices whatsoever ; therefore as you love your Peace, your Safety, your Estates, your Lives, and your Souls, Study to be quiet : Hearken not to the vain charmings of your Priests, who design only to make as much slaves of you in Temporals as they already do in Spirituals ; exert your Reasons, and suffer not your selves to be led hoodwinkt into destruction, by a vain empty foolish story of Tradition and ridiculous Customs and Notions ; open your Eyes and give your rational Faculties but leave impartially to inquire and examine things, and you will certainly find, that you have hitherto been befooled and Priest ridden, and that what you call Catholick Religion, in all things wherein it differs from what is believed, own'd and enjoyn'd to be practis'd by the Protestants, is nothing in the World but a cheat ; contriv'd to support and gratifie either the Ambition or Covetousness of your self-designing Clergy.

This much however, (having this publique opportunity to discharge my Conscience, and express my sincere Affection to you) I thought fit to say, protesting that in all that I have discovered and here written, I have had no aim at Temporal advantage, private Revenge, or any other sinister design ; but that I have done it only and purely for the Glory of God, the Service of my King, the Preservation of the Government, the Real good of you, my dear Country-men ! and the disburthening of my own Soul. To which good ends I Heartily wish these poor Papers (though never so inartificially dressed) may be effectual : And with that satisfaction commit them, and my self, to the Worlds Censure, and Gods Protection.

F I N I S.